

Message Text

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46/53

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 OPR-02 SY-04 SCCT-02 SCA-01 CIEP-02

DRC-01 CCO-00 /092 W

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O R 011155Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7117

INFO DIA DOD WASHDC

AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUENOS AIRES 4846

C O R R E C T E D (COPY (TEXT)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, AR

SUBJ: COUNTRY REMAINS CALM; EXPRESSIONS OF SUPPORT FOR ACTING
PRESIDENT

REF: BA 4843

1. SUMMARY: RUMORS THAT PERON ALREADY DEAD APPARENTLY UNFOUNDED.
AS OF EARLY JUNE 30 CONDITION REPORTEDLY SERIOUS BUT STABLE
THOUGH THIS COULD CHANGE FROM ONE MOMENT TO NEXT. ALL SECTORS
ARE VOICING SUPPORT FOR ACTING PRESIDENT AND FOR CONSTITUTIONAL
PROCESS. COUNTRY REMAINS JITTERY AND UNCERTAIN OF FUTURE BUT
RELATIVELY CALM. END SUMMARY.

2. DOUBTLESS WITH VIEW TO KILLING SNOWBALLING RUMOR LATE JUNE
29 THAT PERON ALREADY DEAD, PRESIDENTIAL PRESS SECRETARIAT
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AT 8 PM ISSUED BULLETIN INDICATING PERON HAD IMPROVED NOTABLY

AND THAT THERE WERE HOPES FOR RAPID RECOVERY. STATEMENT ALSO EXPRESSED PERON'S APPRECIATION FOR UNANIMOUS SUPPORT SHOWN ACTING PRESIDENT BY ALL SECTORS. CHAMBER PRESIDENT RAUL LASTIRI ALSO MADE STATEMENT LATE IN AFTERNOON THAT PERON RESTING WELL AND IMPROVING.

3. WELL INFORMED PERONIST SOURCES EMBASSY ABLE TO CONTACT SUBSEQUENT TO SENDING REFTEL, MOREOVER, INSISTED THAT WHILE PERON'S CONDITION OF COURSE REMAINED SERIOUS, IT HAD STABILIZED AND THEY WERE ENCOURAGED. THE WARNED HOWEVER THAT JUST AS HE HAD SUFFERED UPS AND DOWNS SINCE JUNE 26, CONDITION NOW COULD CHANGE FROM ONE MOMENT TO NEXT.

4. ALL BLOCS IN CONGRESS DID ISSUE STATEMENT OF SUPPORT LATE AFTERNOON JUNE 29 (SEE RETEL). EVEN FRANCISCO MANRIQUE HAS SENT MESSAGE WISHING PERON SPEEDY RECOVERY AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR ACTING PRESIDENT. INDEED, EXPRESSIONS OF SOLIDARITY AND SUPPORT HAVE COME FROM VIRTUALLY ALL PARTIES, SECTORS AND INSTITUTIONS, INCLUDING SUCH DIVERSE SOURCES AS UCR. MONTONEROS, CGT AND COMMUNIST PARTY. AS INDICATED IN REFTEL, MOREOVER, ALL THREEE ARMED SERVICES HAVE ISSUED STATEMENTS INDICATING TOTAL SUPPORT FOR CONSTITUTIONAL HORMS AND COMMITMENT TO INSTITUTIONALIZATION PROCESS.

5. AS ENCOURAGEING AS UNANIMOUS EXPERESSIONS OF SUPPORT IS FACT THAT COUNTRY, THOUGH JITTERY, SO FAR HAS REMAINED RELATIVELY CALM AND TAKEN EVENTS MUCH MORE IN STRIDE THAN MOST OBSERVERS EXPECTED. TENDENCY TO RALLY AROUND ACTING PRESIDENT AND CONSTITTUION IN TIME OF CRISIS MAY NOT LAST, BUT SO FAR SIGNS ARE ENCOURAGING.

6. EMBASSY ANALYSIS OF LIKELY IMPLICATIONS OF VICE PRESIDENT'S ASSUMPTION OF POWER--E.G. WHERE DOES IT LEAVE LOPEZ REGA-- WILL FOLLOW SOONEST.
HILL

NOTE BY OC/T: M AND A TAKE AS ORIGINAL

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